

OPERATE A TRAFFIC CONTROL POINT

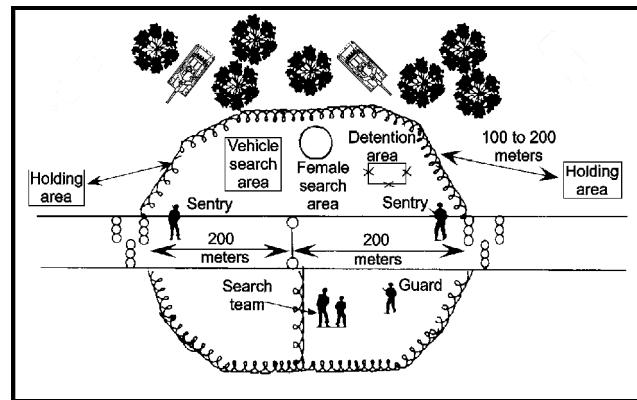
The following tables list steps the platoon takes in operating light and heavy traffic control points during stability operations and support operations. Refer to the illustrations on page 110. The table on page 111 provides a list of equipment needed for traffic control point operations; the list is also applicable for operations at choke points, roadblocks, and blockades.

OPERATE A LIGHT TRAFFIC CONTROL POINT (SECTION)

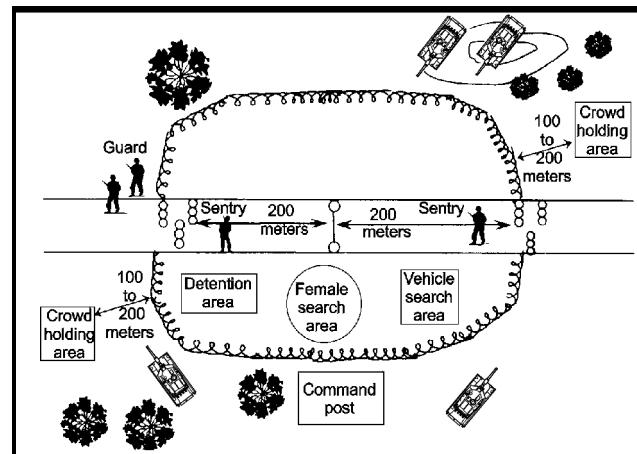
STEP	ACTION – Operate a light traffic control point
Overwatch element	
1	Gunners and drivers remain mounted on tanks or HMMWVs.
2	Tanks/HMMWVs are postured at REDCON-2.
3	Gunners man the CWS.
Inspection element	
1	TCs (including platoon leader or PSG) position themselves in center of the traffic control point, monitoring both gates.
2	Loaders (sentries) operate the gates, allowing traffic to enter and leave as directed by the senior leader on the ground.
3	When vehicles are searched at a light checkpoint, the driver and gunner from a designated overwatch tank/HMMWV assist the sentries in the vehicle search.
4	The remaining tank/HMMWV in overwatch increases readiness condition to REDCON-1 until search is complete.

OPERATE A HEAVY TRAFFIC CONTROL POINT (PLATOON)

STEP	ACTION – Operate a heavy traffic control point
Overwatch element (section)	
1	TCs and drivers remain mounted on tanks/HMMWVs and man CWS.
2	Tanks/HMMWVs are postured at REDCON-2.
3	Gunners and loaders dismount. Loaders perform duties as vehicle/personnel search team; gunners perform duties as guards.
Inspection element (section)	
1	Gunners and drivers remain mounted on tanks/HMMWVs.
2	Loaders perform duties as sentries.
3	Platoon leader or PSG remains mounted on tank/HMMWV and reports to company/troop.
4	One TC is in charge of the operation of the traffic control point.
5	If traffic becomes heavy, creating an inspection backup, tanks/HMMWVs physically close off the traffic control point; platoon leader requests assistance from the company/troop reserve.
6	During initial operation of the heavy traffic control point, Alpha section performs duties as the inspection team and Bravo section provides overwatch. Sections rotate duties every four hours or as the tactical situation dictates.



Tank section manning a light traffic control point.



Tank platoon manning a heavy traffic control point.

EQUIPMENT LIST

The following equipment list takes into consideration all equipment needed for traffic control points, including operations at roadblocks and checkpoints. Some equipment is provided by higher headquarters; other items should be organic to the platoon.

GENERAL	ROADBLOCKS/ CHECKPOINTS	SEARCHES
Pyrotechnic pistols Riot guns Tear gas launchers Hand-held flashlights Antiriot helmets Shields, 3ft, 6in Shields, 6ft Police batons Handcuffs Body armor Marshaling wands Telescopes and tripods Binoculars Infrared devices Loudspeakers Fire extinguisher Cameras with flash attachments and tripods Telescopic sights Photographic filter Instant cameras Whistles Hand-held radios (for use in urban areas)	Portable lamp-lights Marker lights Traffic cones Traffic signs Visor sleeves Tire puncture chains Directional arrows Lightweight barriers Mirrors	Ladders Flashlights Picks/shovels Wrecking bars Hand tools, fluorescent (hammers, pliers, screwdrivers) Rope Magnets Telescopic mirror Ax Mine markers Helmets White tape Mine detectors Eye shields Measuring tape Metal-cutting tools Chisels Knives Saws Mine probes Safety harness

Equipment list for traffic control points.

CONDUCT CONVOY ESCORT

The procedures and considerations outlined for convoy escort operations in Part II of this SOP are applicable during stability operations and support operations. In addition, refer to FM 3-20.15.

SUPPORT PROOFING/BREACHING OPERATIONS

The following table lists steps the platoon takes in supporting proofing and breaching operations during stability operations and support operations.

NOTE: Tank platoons do not conduct breaching or proofing operations without the proper equipment, such as mine plows and mine rollers. Refer to the discussion of breaching operations in Part II of this SOP for procedures and considerations when no other breaching/proofing assets (such as engineers) are available to the platoon.

STEP	ACTION – Support proofing/breaching
1	Conduct TLP, including mission analysis, and brief the platoon on the support mission.
2	Select movement technique, formation, and setup speeds. Based on METT-TC, the platoon uses cover and concealment to maneuver.
3	Serve as support force or assault force IAW OPORD.
4	TCs occupy hasty defensive fighting positions and conduct reconnaissance of routes into/out of the positions and to alternate/supplementary positions.
5	Clear fields of observation and fire for support of the proofing/breaching element; report to platoon leader when completed.
6	Provide overwatch/support until the proofing/breaching element reports clearance of the lane.
7	Send SITREP (digital/voice) to the commander.

CONDUCT A MOUNTED PATROL

The following table lists steps the platoon takes in conducting a mounted patrol during stability operations and support operations.

STEP	ACTION – Conduct a mounted patrol
1	Conduct TLP.
2	Drivers, loaders, and gunners conduct before-operations maintenance on automotive, weapon, and fire control systems.
3	Drivers mark vehicles with proper friendly recognition symbols for both day and limited visibility (VS-17 panels or 3 orange chem lights in triangle pattern on TAC sign or rear hatch).
4	Interpreter rides in platoon leader's vehicle.
5	Medic (if attached) rides in PSG's vehicle.
6	Order of march is 2, 1, 4, 3.
7	Perform actions on contact IAW Part II of this SOP.
8	In case of vehicle breakdown or loss of contact, take appropriate steps IAW Part II of this SOP.
9	Report all control measures to company/troop CP or conduct radio checks every 30 minutes, whichever is sooner.
10	Platoon leader fills out patrol debrief form at the conclusion of the patrol and forwards to the commander.

CONDUCT ACTIONS AT A MINE STRIKE

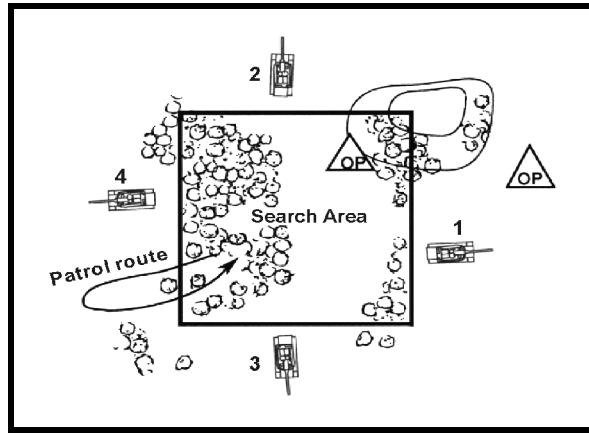
The following table lists steps the platoon takes when a mine strike occurs while the platoon is conducting stability operations and support operations. These procedures are applicable when the platoon is operating in M1114 HMMWVs.

STEP	ACTION – Conduct mine strike actions
1	Convoy halts. All personnel remain mounted. Uninjured crewmen and undamaged vehicles maintain 360-degree security and return fire if mine strike is part of an ambush.
2	Senior leader assesses the situation and collects casualty reports.
3	Senior leader accounts for all sensitive items (as the situation permits).
4	Senior leader sends SITREPs (FM voice initially, following up with digital SITREP) and obstacle report and calls for engineer support to assist in clearing the minefield (if not a single mine).
5	Senior leader orders sweep team (gunners and loaders from Tanks 2 and 3) to clear a footpath to damaged vehicle. Sweep team clears path with fiberglass or wooden probes and marks left and right limits of path with spray paint or chem lights every 3 meters.
6	Once the sweep team clears the footpath to the vehicle, medic or combat lifesaver walks forward to treat casualties and then evacuates the casualties to an operational vehicle.
7	Sweep team clears a path to a designated landing zone and initiates aerial MEDEVAC for injured personnel.
8	Extract and account for all personnel and sensitive items.
9	Once engineers have cleared a lane for the vehicles, platoon continues movement to designated location.

CONDUCT CORDON AND SEARCH OPERATIONS

The following table lists steps the platoon takes in conducting cordon and search operations during stability operations and support operations. This operation is shown in the illustration that follows the table.

STEP	ACTION – Cordon and search operations
1	Conduct TLP, including coordination and rehearsal with search team (company/troop level) and review of ROE/ROI.
2	Occupy hasty defensive positions (Tank 2 at 12 o'clock, Tank 1 at 3 o'clock, Tank 3 at 6 o'clock, Tank 4 at 9 o'clock).
3	Platoon leader designates sectors of fire.
4	Complete steps for hasty occupation of a BP.
5	Execute mission to prevent any outside force from influencing/disrupting the search operation inside the cordoned area.



Cordon and search operations.

DEALING WITH THE MEDIA

The following table lists basic steps and guidelines that apply when the platoon works with members of the news media during stability operations and support operations.

STEP	ACTION
1	Use media cards distributed by the PAO and chain of command.
2	Do not discuss future operations or operational capabilities.
3	Do not use phrase "No comment" or make any off-the-record statements.
4	Do not use military jargon. Do not stand at parade rest.
5	Answer only one question at a time. When cameras are present, ignore them and talk directly to the reporter.
6	Be brief and concise on all answers. Be yourself.
7	Refer the reporter to the PAO or chain of command if you do not feel comfortable answering questions.